AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method ~~of capturing clickstream data related to viewing content~~, comprising:

> receiving [[the]] content from a distribution network;
>
> receiving a command and an identifier of a viewer who generated the command;
>
> ~~receiving clickstream data at a viewer appliance communicating with the distribution network, the clickstream data describing viewer actions that control the viewer appliance;~~
>
> establishing communication from [[the]] a viewer appliance to a remotely located component;
>
> when the command is a channel change at a viewer appliance, then immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance for remote execution to a new stream of programming;
>
> when the command is not the channel change, then eliminating local storage of the command at the viewer appliance by performing in parallel:
>
>> immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component; and
>>
>> executing the command to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer; and
>
> sending an indication that the command has been executed
>
> ~~when a viewer action commands a channel change in the viewer appliance, then remotely executing the viewer action to a new stream of programming; and~~
>
> ~~when the viewer action is not the channel change, then locally executing the viewer action at the viewer appliance.~~

2.   (Cancel)

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising presenting ~~altering an aspect of~~ the content ~~being viewed~~ at the viewer appliance.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising matching the command to a present context ~~concurrently forwarding the clickstream data to a remote storage device~~.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising ~~matching the clickstream data to a present context and~~ concurrently forwarding the matching to the remotely located component ~~storage device~~.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising determining a result of the command ~~clickstream data relative to a present context~~ and concurrently forwarding the result to the remotely located component ~~storage device~~.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~receiving the clickstream data at~~ the viewer appliance comprises ~~receiving the clickstream data at~~ a set-top box, ~~and further comprising concurrently forwarding the clickstream data from the set-top box to a video control system~~.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating targeted advertising ~~based upon the clickstream data~~.

9.   (Currently Amended) A method of capturing commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

          receiving the content at a viewer appliance;
          establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component;
          receiving a command at the viewer appliance;

time stamping the command with a time of receipt;

receiving an identifier of the viewer who generated the command;

when the command is a channel change, then immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to a central switch for remote execution to a new stream of programming remotely executing the command by forwarding a new stream of programming to the viewer appliance; and

when the command is not the channel change, then eliminating local storage of the command at the viewer appliance by performing in parallel:

 immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component; and

 executing the command to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer; and

sending an indication that the command has been executed

locally executing the command at the viewer appliance to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer; and

sending an indication that the command has been executed.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising wherein locally executing the command comprises selecting a volume.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising establishing a broadband connection from the viewer appliance to [[a]] the remotely located component.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising matching the command to a present context and concurrently forwarding a matching from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising matching the command to a current time when the command is received.

14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising determining a result of the command ~~relative to a present context~~.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, <u>further comprising</u> ~~wherein determining the result of the command comprises~~ determining an audio format.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein receiving the command at the viewer appliance comprises receiving the command at a set-top box~~, and further comprising forwarding the command from the set-top box to a video control system~~.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising choosing content based upon the command.

18.   (Currently Amended) A system for capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

           <u>a processor executing instructions stored in memory that cause the processor to:</u>

           <u>receive the content from a distribution network;</u>
           <u>establish communication with a remotely located component;</u>
           <u>receive a command and an identifier of a viewer who generated the command;</u>
           <u>when the command is a channel change, then immediately upon receipt concurrently forward the command to a central switch for remote execution to a new stream of programming;</u>
           <u>when the command is not the channel change, then eliminate local storage of the command in the memory by performing in parallel:</u>
                   <u>immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command to the remotely located component; and</u>

executing the command to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by

the viewer; and

send an indication that the command has been executed

~~a reception mechanism that receives the content from a distribution network and~~
~~that receives commands, the reception mechanism also receiving an identifier of a viewer~~
~~who generated the commands and a time at which a switch received the commands;~~
~~a transfer mechanism that establishes communication with a remotely located~~
~~component and that immediately forwards the commands upon receipt through the~~
~~distribution network to the remotely located component; and~~
~~a control mechanism that locally executes the commands in parallel with the~~
~~transfer mechanism when a command is not a channel change, and the control~~
~~mechanism awaiting remote execution of the command when the command is a channel~~
~~change to control an aspect of the content being provided to the viewer~~.

19.   (Cancel)

20.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18, wherein the <u>processor and memory</u>
<u>operate</u> ~~reception mechanism and the transfer mechanism are included~~ in a set top box.

21.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[20]] <u>18</u>, wherein the <u>instructions further</u>
<u>cause the processor to determine a result of the command</u> ~~control mechanism is included~~
~~in the set top box~~.

22.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18, wherein the <u>instructions further cause the</u>
<u>processor to store a result of the command</u> ~~transfer mechanism concurrently forwards the~~
~~commands to a video control system located remotely from a premises of the viewer~~.

23.   (Cancel)
24.   (Cancel)

25.   (Currently Amended) A method of capturing commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

        receiving the content from a distribution network at a viewer appliance;

        establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component;

        receiving a command at the viewer appliance and an identifier of a viewer who generated the command;

        when the command is a channel change at the viewer appliance, then immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to a central switch for remote execution to a new stream of programming;

        when the command is not the channel change, then eliminating local storage of the command at the viewer appliance by performing in parallel:

            [[i)]] immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component; and

            [[iii)]] executing the command to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer; and

        sending an indication that the command has been executed.

26.   (Cancel)

27.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, wherein concurrently forwarding the command comprises concurrently forwarding the command to a remote storage device.

28.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising matching the command to a present context.

29.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, further comprising determining a result of the command relative to the present context.

30.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising generating targeted advertising based upon information related to the command.

31.   (Cancel)

32.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising concurrently forwarding the command as a control message.